

Annex B – Response from Surrey Police

The response of Surrey Police is reproduced verbatim below:

I am a Road Safety and Traffic Management officer for Surrey Police and I am authorised to respond on behalf of Surrey Police to the proposal to remove the existing traffic calming in The Avenue and Aston Road at Claygate, Surrey.

Surrey Police do not object to this proposal

- 1.1 Surrey Police fully support Surrey County Council’s Speed Limit Policy and Speed Management Policy; DFT national guidelines and the ACPO speed enforcement policy guidelines.
- 1.2 Following consultation with Surrey County Council highways engineers, I have been reassured that there was not an excess speed or collision problem prior to the installation of the traffic calming at this location. The traffic calming appears to have been installed for other reasons.
- 1.3 Removing traffic calming is a serious step to take with the potential to increase speeds and collisions. I would therefore ask that you consider implementing the conditions of your own Speed limit policy in that *“Speeds, the casualty record, and safety concern will be reviewed after 12 months and in the event of the speed limit being ineffective, remedial action will be considered”*. (SCC speed Limit Policy, para 3). Whilst I accept that the scheme may not have been installed to deal with an excess speed or collision problem, there is nothing to suggest that the scheme has not fulfilled that purpose in the interim period.
- 1.4 I am satisfied that any increase in casualties will be captured by the casualty reduction working group.
- 1.5 A limited speed survey has been conducted in the Avenue and currently average speeds are around 24mph, with 85th percentile figures being 29 and 31mph.
- 1.6 If speeds increase as a direct result of the removed speed calming solutions, then it is right that I bring to your attention the current ACPO policy. *“The service has limited capacity and resilience and will assume that if correctly placed, speed limits will be self enforcing and that the roads authority will be responsible for ensuring that it meets those aims”* (Association of Chief Police officers, covering letter dated the 17th May 2013, Speed enforcement policy guidelines 2011-2015, Revised)

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Central Neighbourhoods

Road Safety and Traffic Management Team

(Strategic Road network, Tandridge, Epsom and Ewell, Reigate and Banstead, Mole Valley and Elmbridge)

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